



*Continuing the Tradition of Leadership  
in Community Health<sup>SM</sup>*

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February 19, 2008

Marc P. Volavka  
Executive Director  
Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council  
225 Market Street  
Suite 400  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

RE: PHC4's Hospital-Acquired Infection Report for CY 2006

Dear Mr. Volavka,

Jameson Hospital continues to support the efforts of the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council in the collection and dissemination of data related to patient outcomes.

In reviewing the PHC4 results for the above time period, Jameson's overall hospital acquired infection data depicts lower rates as compared to state and peer group hospitals. It is noted that mortality rates for these same categories appear slightly higher than the peer groups, however, case analyses revealed 20 out of 22 patients expired as a result of other serious medical conditions including End Stage Renal and Lung Disease and Cancers, and not because of underlying infection. Additionally, 17 out of 20 cases involved patients opting for comfort care measures only as a result of their other significant illnesses.

Jameson Hospital continues to use this data and other similar statistics to identify trends, though, data such as mortality outcomes, and infection ratings must be further analyzed on a case by case basis to reflect patient history, co-morbid conditions, immune status, living arrangements and requests for DNR (Do Not Resuscitate/Comfort Measures). This analysis occurs as part of our internal quality improvement and medical staff peer efforts. Appropriate physicians and other clinicians regularly review these outcomes through committees such as Mortality/Morbidity Review, Infection Control, Pharmacy and Therapeutics, Utilization and Critical Care and make recommendations for improved medical management when appropriate.

Thank you for contributing information that supports our mission to enhance outcomes and patient education in the same regard.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debra M. Perretta, RN, BSN".

Debra M. Perretta, RN BSN  
Director Quality Management Services

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Douglas D. Danko".

Douglas D. Danko  
Chief Operating Officer

DMP/DDD/gm